

Delaware Division of the Arts

Delaware State Arts Council Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2019
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Buena Vista Conference Center, New Castle, DE

Attending: Council: Mack Wathen (Chair), Madeleine Bayard, Tina Betz, Donna Blakey, David Fleming, Janis Julian, Michael Kalmbach, Heather Morrissey, Cheryle Pringle, Rosetta Roach, Dan Shelton

Staff: Paul Weagraff, Sheila Ross, Roxanne Stanulis, Kathleen Dinsmore, Leeann Wallett, Dana Wise, Gwen Henderson

Absent: Kristin Pleasanton, Andrew Horgan, Mary Ann Miller, John Muller

Mr. Wathen called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Chair's Report – Mack Wathen

Motion by Janis Julian to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2019 Council meeting – second by Donna Blakey - All in favor – None opposed.

The Individual Artist Fellowship reception at the Biggs was a very successful event and it was a full house. If anyone is interested, the Mid-Atlantic Arts Festival is celebrating the 25th year of the Jazz Legacy award and tickets are on sale now.

The next order of business is to approve the Division's representative on the ARTCO board. ARTCO is the board that oversees Arts Stabilization Funds. It's comprised of eight major arts organizations in this state and is primarily for capital purposes. Each of them and the Division of the Arts have two members, typically the executive director who is a non-voting member and a representative of the Arts Council. Tina Betz has been on the board for 3 years and has volunteered to continue.

Motion by David Fleming to approve Tina Betz as the appointed ARTCO Representative for FY2019 – Second by Dan Shelton – All in favor – None opposed.

Kathleen Dinsmore – Overview of the Panel Process

Thank you for your service if you were a panelist or chaired a panel. We had six panels that reviewed 69 applications, with an additional 37 interim applications that were reviewed in-house. Four panels met at the Dover Public Library on May 6, 7, and 8 – General Operating Support, Project Support, Education Resource, and Arts Stabilization Funds. There was an in-house Project Support panel that met on May 14 to review 6 of the 26 applications – those six had less than \$12,000 in direct expenses. The interim application review was conducted by staff on May 29. Aside from the GOS Interim applications, scores for each application were averaged and ranked, followed by discussion by the panelists about funding recommendations. There was one Start Up application reviewed. Minutes for the panel meetings were posted on delaware.gov.

Director's Report – Paul Weagraff

Funding Projections for FY2019

The Division of the Arts will receive an increase of \$4,500 from the NEA in FY2020. This is the result of a \$2 million increase to the NEA.

State funding for FY2019, as of June 26, 2017, is projected to reflect a \$500,000 increase over FY2019. This addition to the grant line is to provide support for specific initiatives that address the Governor's priorities: strengthening Delaware's economy, strengthening Delaware's schools, providing for a healthier Delaware, and building strong communities.

The Division will be developing some funding mechanisms and proposals for organizations to apply for these special initiative funds.

Funding coordination with the Controller General's Office

The Division of the Arts maintains a policy that any arts organization receiving state support from other sources, including Grant-in-Aid, may impact their General Operating Support grant award.

In an effort to better monitor state support of nonprofit arts organizations, the Controller General's office works with the Division to review lists of organizations that have applied for the Division's general operating support as well as Grant-in-Aid. Before finalizing grant awards for General Operating Support, the Division will verify with the Controller General's office their list of grant awardees.

SmARTDE

The Division of the Arts got through the first cycle of grants with SmARTDE. The Artist Fellowship application is currently open. This is the first year that all application processes are being managed in the same system. Preliminary reports from applicants and reviewers alike are quite favorable. SmartSimple tech support has been incredibly responsive to address any issues we encounter, which have been minimal.

Summer Collaborations

The Division is collaborating once again with the Division of Libraries and the Division of Parks & Recreation to bring arts programs to 33 libraries in Delaware as part of its Summer Reading Program, and to eight state parks throughout the state. These collaborations bring arts programs to communities not typically reached by traditional arts programming.

Summer Teacher Training

Sheila Ross is working with the Department of Education and University of Delaware to host a summer institute that convenes arts educators from schools and organizations, as well as teaching artists, for two days of engagement in how to implement the new national arts standards.

Two 2-day sessions will be conducted in mid-July: Wilbur Elementary School in Bear on July 10-11, and Milford Central Academy in Milford on July 17-18.

2019 Arts Summit & Governor's Awards

The 2019 Arts Summit will be held on Monday, October 28 from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dover Downs Hotel and Casino. The day will include a keynote speaker, two workshop sessions, and performances. Save the Date cards were mailed out recently. Brochures will be mailed out later this summer, with registration to open in early September.

The Governor's Awards nominations will close after Friday, June 28. A small selection committee will meet in mid-July to review the nominations and select the recipients to be celebrated at an afternoon event on Monday, October 28 at 4 p.m., following the Arts Summit. The categories candidates are being considered for are: arts administration, arts education, arts patron, community engagement, and government.

NEA Grants in Delaware

The National Endowment for the Arts recently announced direct grant awards for Delaware organizations:

- Delaware Art Museum: \$15,000 Art Works grant to support performances by Nathalie Joachim and Makeda Thomas and related activities. Artistic presentations including multimedia and dance will address the theme of gender equality in the Caribbean.
- Delaware Shakespeare \$10,000 Art Works to support a touring production of Romeo and Juliet and related outreach activities.
- Opera Delaware: \$14,000 Art Works to support new productions of a new orchestral reduction of Derrick Wang's Scalia/Ginsburg and Gilbert and Sullivan's Trial by Jury.

FY2019 Grants Awarded

Category	Number of grants	Total dollars
Artist Opportunity	9	\$6,250
Artist Residency	10	\$17,105
Arts Access	31	\$28,000
Arts Stabilization	5	\$66,850
Education Resource	12	\$128,500
General Operating	60	\$2,415,000
Individual Artist Fellowship	20	\$91,000
Project Support	27	\$221,500
Special Projects	16	\$274,000
StartUp	2	\$5,000
TranspARTation	27	\$7,545
Total	219	\$3,260,750

For your calendar

Through July 21, 2019	IAF exhibition at the Biggs Museum of American Art, Dover
August 3, 2019	IAF Reception at CAMP Rehoboth, 5 p.m. (Exhibition runs from August 3 – September 1), Rehoboth Beach
September 6, 2019	IAF Reception at Cab Calloway School of the Arts, 5 p.m. (Exhibition runs September 6 – October 18), Wilmington
September 17, 2019	State Arts Council Meeting, Location/Time TBD (NOTE: Tuesday meeting date)
October 28, 2019	Arts Summit and Governor's Awards for the Arts
December 18, 2019	State Arts Council Meeting, New Castle County (TBD), 10 a.m. to noon

Paul Weagraff- Explanation of Funding Presentation

Paul explained budget allocations for approved grants, DE Arts Trust Fund, State and NEA funding lines, DE Community Foundation, and ARTCO funding.

Approval Process for All Grant Categories

The Director presented a spreadsheet of funding recommendations, based upon panel scores, their follow-up discussion, and available funds in each category. Council discussion ensued, as it related to that specific grant category. For voting, any application that represented a conflict for a Council member was voted on first, with that council member (or members) recusing him/herself. The remaining slate of applications was then voted on as a whole.

Conflicts of interest in reviewing funding recommendations were confirmed:

- Heather Morrissey – Delaware Art Museum
- Tina Betz – Cityfest, Delaware Futures
- Janis Julian – University of Delaware
- Dan Shelton – DE Dance Company

Project Support (PS) Grants Funding Approval

Paul pointed out that the PS panel recommended not funding applications scoring under 3.0 (represents meeting expectations). Following discussion, voting took place.

The Hispanic American Association of Delaware was not recommended for approval by the panel for funding through Project Support, however we can recommend them to apply for a smaller grant – Arts Access – that they can apply for twice per year. Division staff can also meet with them to discuss their application and the panel decision.

Cityfest (Wilmington Children's Chorus): Tina Betz abstained - Motion by David Fleming to approve funding recommendations – Second by Cheryle Pringle – All in favor – None opposed.

Cityfest (Artworks): Tina Betz abstained – Motion by Michael Kalmbach to approve as recommended – Second by Rosetta Roach – All in favor – None opposed.

Delaware Futures: Tina Betz abstained – Motion by Cheryle Pringle to approve funding recommendations – Second by Donna Blakey – All in favor – None opposed.

UD Resident Ensemble Players: Janis Julian abstained – Motion to approve funding recommendations by Rosetta Roach - Second by David Fleming – All in favor – None opposed.

UD Master Players: Janis Julian abstained – Motion by Tina Betz to approve funding recommendations - Second by Cheryle Pringle – All in favor – None opposed.

UD Community Music School: Janis Julian abstained – Motion by Cheryle Pringle to approve funding recommendations - Second by Tina Betz – All in favor – None opposed.

Hispanic American Association of Delaware: Motion by Madeleine Bayard to move with panel recommendation – Second by Tina Betz - All in favor – None opposed.

Motion by Tina Betz to approve funding recommendations for all other Project Support applications – Second by Cheryle Pringle - All in favor – None Opposed.

Arts Stabilization Fund (ASF) Grants Funding Approval

ASF is funded outside of the DDOA budget by money drawn from the ARTCO fund annually, which is the endowment Delaware Community Foundation manages for capital facilities-related expenses. Eight organizations can't apply for ASF through DDOA because they are ARTCO members and receive direct funding annually from ARTCO. DDOA draws funding annually for all of the other arts organizations that own their buildings or have a long-term lease.

The panel recommended funding all projects, with highest percentage of request to those above 3.0 ("Meets expectations") or higher.

Delaware Dance Company: Dan Shelton abstained – Motion by Heather Morrissey to approve panel recommendation – Second by David Fleming – All in favor – None opposed.

Motion by Heather Morrissey to approve funding recommendations for all other Arts Stabilization Fund applications – Second by Rosetta Roach - All in favor – None opposed.

Education Resource (EDR) Grants Funding Approval

The panel recommended not funding applications that scored below 3.0 (meets expectations).

Delaware Art Museum: Heather Morrissey abstained – Motion to approve funding by David Fleming – Second by Donna Blakey – All in favor – None opposed.

Motion by Dan Shelton to approve funding recommendations for all other Education Resource applications – Second by Madeleine Bayard – All in favor – None opposed.

Start Up Grants Funding Approval

The Everett Theatre was the only organization that applied for Start Up Grant funding.

Motion by Mack Wathen to approve funding recommendations for Start Up applications – Second by Tina Betz – All in favor – None opposed.

Mezzanine Gallery Panel Presentation – Roxanne Stanulis

Roxanne Stanulis presented the results of the Gallery Panel's review of entries for 2020. The Division sponsors exhibits 11 months of the year in the Mezzanine Gallery (no exhibit in January). The exhibits are one-person shows, all Delaware artists. The artists have opening receptions on the first Friday of the month to coincide with the Artloop. The get to exhibit by being a fellowship winner or by being chosen by the gallery panel that meets once a year. Usually the fellowship winners choose to have exhibitions during the months of September thru December and sometimes into February. The rest of the year is filled with visual images registry winners. All of the artists in the Division's visual images registry are reviewed and ranked by the gallery panel.

Paul and Roxanne are on a committee with other divisions to choose artwork for the Carvel State Building. It's a multi-agency collaboration with Historical & Cultural Affairs (HCA), Government Information Center (GIC), DDOA, and the Office of Management & Budget (OMB). The photos are selected from the GIC 302 Fellowship program, which is an effort to get photos for state websites and other things. The committee worked to get photos from each of the floors and prints reproductions from HCA. There's a wall with a large photo mural representing each of the 3 counties. There's going to be a large digital screen in the lobby and we're working on having the gallery featured in the loop.

Lunch

General Operating Support (GOS) Grants Approval

Division staff provided three spreadsheets for GOS divided by those reviewed by full panel/full applications, the interim year groups reviewed in house, and the Arts Trust group. From the YPTC financial report, staff calculated the rolling average for the last three years and based the grant award on that.

GOS Full Applications – Panel Review

Delaware Choral Arts: Tina Betz abstained – Motion to approve funding recommendation by Dan Shelton – Second by Heather Morrissey – All in favor – None opposed.

Motion by Tina Betz to approve funding recommendations for all other GOS Full applications – Second by Heather Morrissey – All in favor – None opposed.

GOS Arts Trust Fund

Delaware Art Museum: Heather Morrissey abstained - Motion by Michael Kalmbach to approve funding recommendations for GOS Arts Trust Fund - Second by Tina Betz - All in favor – None opposed.

Motion by David Fleming to approve funding recommendations for remaining GOS Arts Trust Fund – Second by Janis Julian – All in favor – None opposed.

GOS Interim Applications – In-House Review

Delaware Dance Company: Dan Shelton abstained - Motion by Janis Julian to approve recommended funding – Second by Tina Betz – All in favor – None opposed.

Motion by Donna Blakey to approve funding recommendations for remaining GOS Interim – Second by Dan Shelton – All in favor – None opposed.

Paul asked that council members not discuss any decisions until the Division notifies grantees of their awards.

Old Business - None

New Business

Paul – The September DSAC meeting will be on a Tuesday (9/17) instead of Wednesday. The agenda will include:

- Upcoming Governor's Awards for the Arts
- 2019 Arts Summit
- FY2020 is the last year of our current strategic plan and we will propose to approve an extension to do planning in FY2021 to get on cycle of new governor/administration

Mack - Out & About Magazine, as proposed by Leeann Walleit, will cover our anniversary this year. They will do a feature to give an overview of where we are now vs. where we were.

Tina Betz is performing with the Delaware Symphony Orchestra at the City of Wilmington's free July 4th celebration, highlighting the fact that they are our only professional orchestra.

Public Comment - None

Motion by Tina Betz at 1:16 pm to adjourn the meeting – Second by Dan Shelton - All in favor – None opposed.